



Which words and phrases could go together?

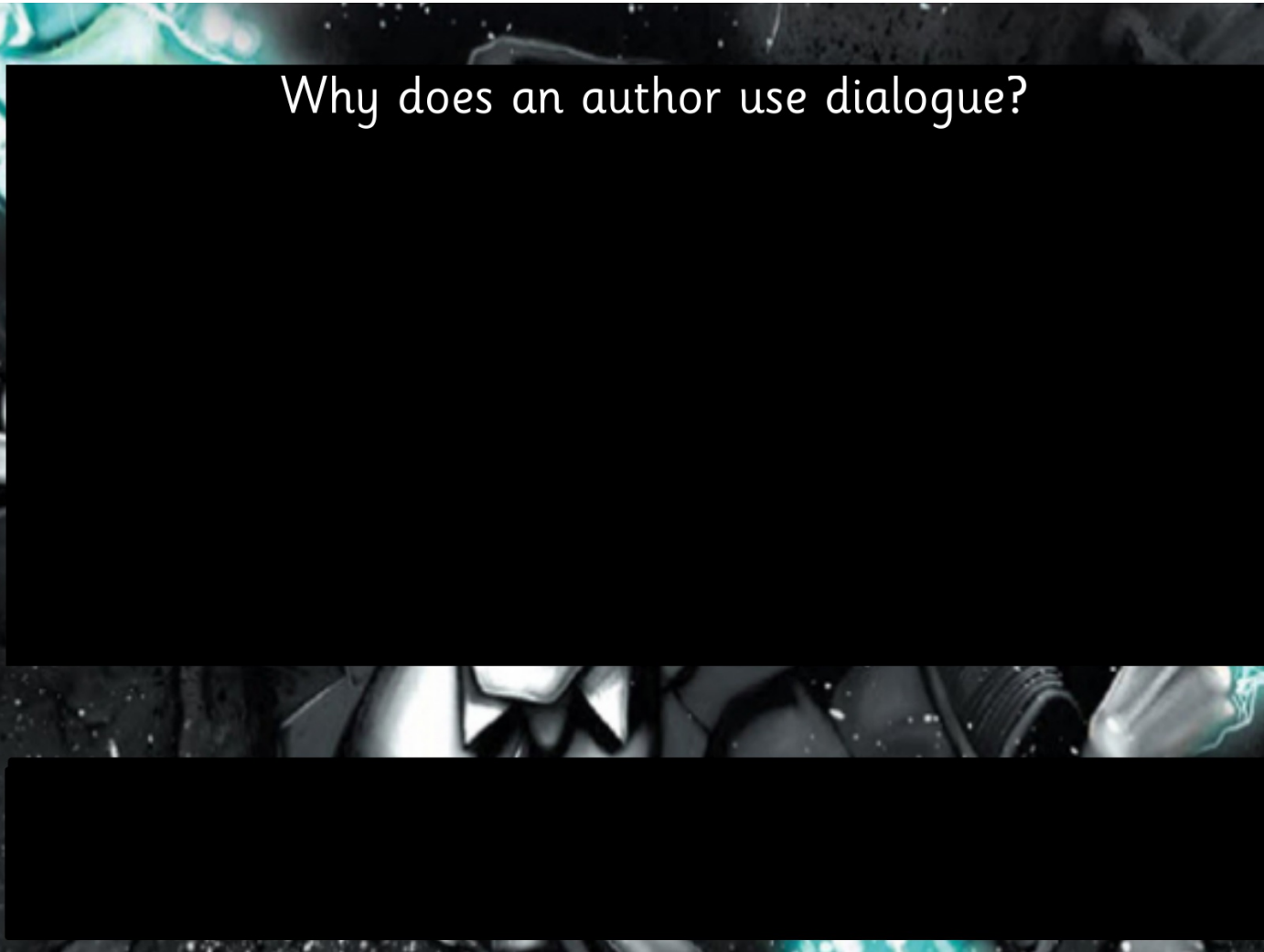
Why/how?

1. washing the car on a freezing cold day **mischief**
2. spreading nasty rumours about someone **reluctantly**
3. refusing to stop football practise until you mastered a new skill **strong-willed**
4. moving all of your sister's clothes into your brother's wardrobe and moving all of your brothers clothes into your sister's wardrobe **vindictive**

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Why does an author use dialogue?

## Why does an author use dialogue?

- explain part of the story
- show what a character is like through what they say
- demonstrate the relationship between characters based on what they say, and how they say it
- create a certain mood or atmosphere
- create humour

Recognise that authors use dialogue at certain points in a story to explain plot, show character and relationships, convey mood or create humour.



Using the examples below, what is the purpose of this dialogue?

- It can have more than one purpose

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"Not at all," my grandmother said. "A REAL WITCH always wears a wig to hide her baldness. She wears a first-class wig. And it is almost impossible to tell a really first-class wig from ordinary hair unless you give it a pull to see if it comes off."

"Then that's what I'll have to do," I said.

"Don't be foolish," my grandmother said. "You can't go round pulling at the hair of every lady you meet, even if she is wearing gloves. Just you try it and see what happens."

"So that doesn't help much either," I said.

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- It explains part of the story by giving important details about a character: we learn that the witches are bald but that they wear wigs to hide this.
- It also shows us a little bit of the relationship between the boy and his grandmother. They must be quite close as she is telling him the secret about witches.
- This also shows that she trusts him and takes care of him: she believes he will be responsible with the secret and she wants to keep him safe from the witches.
- It also creates humour: the sentence, 'You can't go round pulling at the hair of every lady you meet, even if she is wearing gloves. Just you try it and see what happens.' makes me imagine the little boy running around pulling ladies hair and their reactions would probably be so confused and outraged. All of which sounds quite funny.

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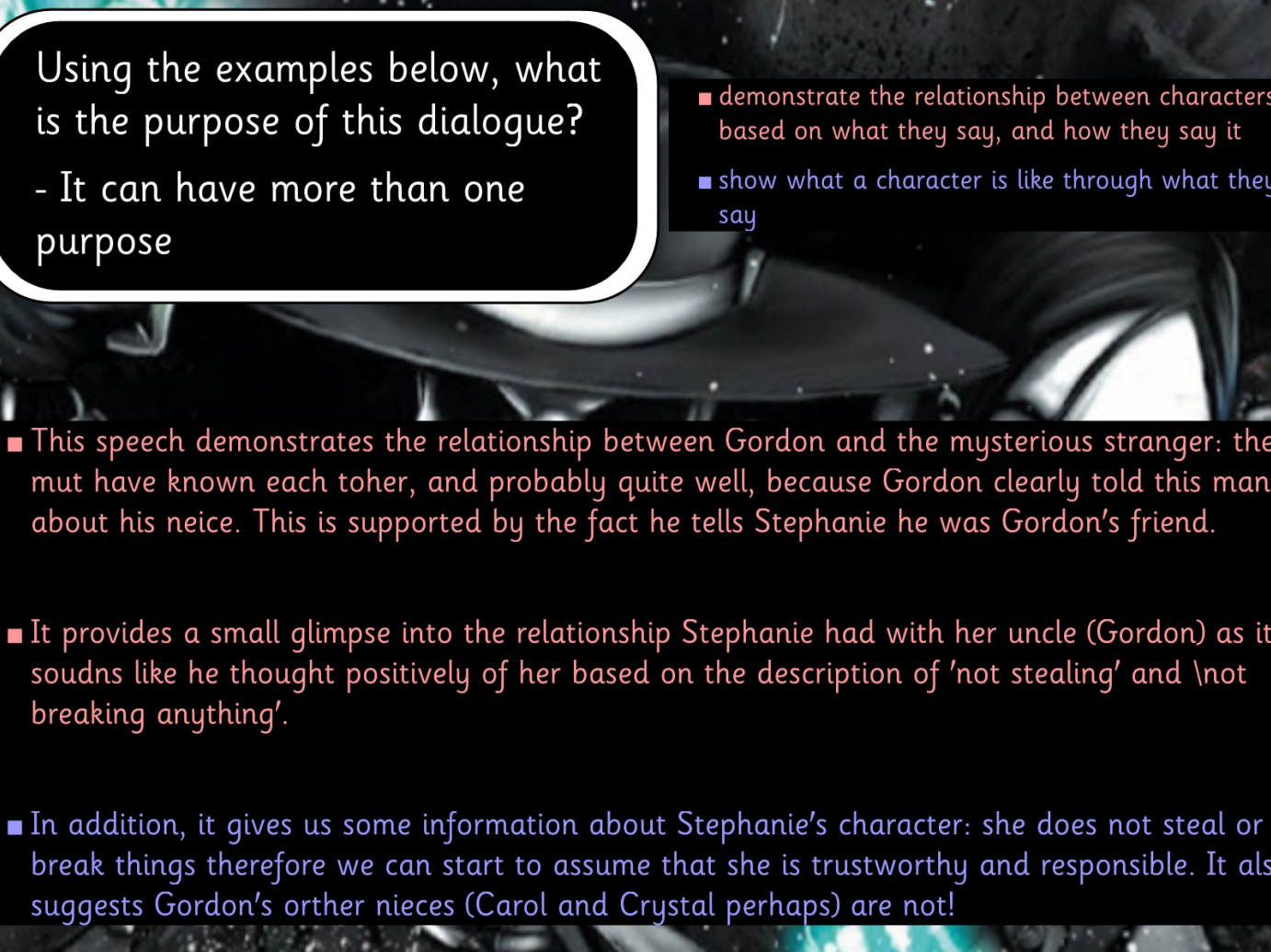
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“You’re one of his nieces then?” the man asked, “You’re not stealing anything, you’re not breaking anything, so I’d guess you’re Stephanie.”

“Were you a friend of his?” she asked. He was tall, this man, tall and thin, though his coat made it difficult to judge.

“I was,” he answered with a slight move of his head.





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- demonstrate the relationship between characters based on what they say, and how they say it
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- This speech demonstrates the relationship between Gordon and the mysterious stranger: they must have known each other, and probably quite well, because Gordon clearly told this man about his niece. This is supported by the fact he tells Stephanie he was Gordon's friend.
- It provides a small glimpse into the relationship Stephanie had with her uncle (Gordon) as it sounds like he thought positively of her based on the description of 'not stealing' and 'not breaking anything'.
- In addition, it gives us some information about Stephanie's character: she does not steal or break things therefore we can start to assume that she is trustworthy and responsible. It also suggests Gordon's other nieces (Carol and Crystal perhaps) are not!

Complete the same activity with the speech below.

Write an explanation of why the dialogue has been included.

Remember the purposes can be:

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**Extract 1:**

"Gordon used to talk about you all the time, boast about his little niece. He was an individual of character your uncle. It seems that you are too."



"You say that like you know me."

"Strong-willed, intelligent, sharp-tongued, doesn't suffer fools gladly... remind you of anyone?"

"Yes. Gordon."

"Interesting," said the man. "Because those are the exact words he used to describe you." His gloved fingers dipped into his waistcoat and brought out an ornate pocket watch on a delicate gold chain.

"Good luck in whatever you decide to do with your life."

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